

**RESPONSE TO THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY AND ADULT
SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE INQUIRY REPORT
ENTITLED "PREVENTING YOUNG PEOPLE'S INVOLVEMENT IN
DRUG DEALING".**

HOUSING & COMMUNITIES (COUNCILLOR LYNDA THORNE)

AGENDA ITEM: 5

Reason for this Report

1. To respond to the Inquiry Report entitled "Preventing Young People's Involvement in Drug Dealing" undertaken by the Task Group established by the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee and the Community and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee.

Background

2. A Joint Task and Finish Inquiry considering the issues around preventing young people's involvement in drug dealing took place between October 2017 and May 2018.
3. The Task Group comprised Members from both the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, the Community and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee and Ward Members from Butetown and Grangetown.
4. The Task Group heard from approximately 30 witnesses and considered the results of a survey that was completed by 413 people or groups.
5. The Inquiry report was presented to Cabinet in November 2018 and made 19 recommendations supported by associated key findings. The key findings and conclusions from the Inquiry were themed under a number of headings. These were:
 - Culture shift – the "Normalisation" of drugs
 - Impact on Communities
 - Safeguarding Young People(and their families)
 - The role of Agencies
 - Education and awareness raising
 - Crime and Enforcement

6. The recommendations of the Task Group were endorsed by both Scrutiny committees and commended to Cabinet for implementation, in consultation with the community safety board and organisations within the wider Cardiff partnership arrangements.

Issues

7. The recommendations in the report have been shared with partner agencies for consideration and have been discussed at the community safety delivery board.
8. Of the 19 recommendations, 12 have been accepted, 6 accepted in principle and 1 to follow (Recommendation 17). The response to each recommendation is detailed in Appendix 1 with an explanation as to why the recommendation is either accepted, rejected or accepted in principle or in part.

Reasons for Recommendations

9. To enable the Cabinet to respond to the Scrutiny report.

Financial Implications

10. Whilst there are no direct financial implications arising from the report, as and when individual proposals are developed in respect of accepted recommendations, financial advice will need to be taken in order to demonstrate appropriate diligence and affordability and that it is affordable within the parameters set when Council approved the 2019/20 and the medium term revenue and capital budget.

Legal Implications

11. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.
12. The Council must consult with the police, Police and Crime Commissioner and other relevant bodies before issuing Public Spaces protection Orders.
13. The Council has to satisfy its public sector duties under the Equalities Act 2010 (including specific Welsh public sector duties). Pursuant to these legal duties Councils must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics.

14. The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the Act') places a 'well-being duty' on public bodies aimed at achieving 7 national well-being goals for Wales - a Wales that is prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, has cohesive communities, a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, and is globally responsible.
15. The well being duty also requires the Council to act in accordance with a 'sustainable development principle'. This principle requires the Council to act in a way which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Put simply, this means that Council decision makers must take account of the impact of their decisions on people living their lives in Wales in the future.

HR Implications

16. There are no HR implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

Cabinet is recommended to agree the response to the Scrutiny Committee report entitled "Preventing Young People's Involvement in Drug Dealing"

SENIOR RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	SARAH McGILL Corporate Director People & Communities
	12 April 2019

The following appendix is attached:

Appendix 1 - Response to Recommendations

The following background papers have been taken into account:

An Inquiry report of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee & Community and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee entitled 'Preventing Young People's Involvement in Drug Dealing' (Nov 2018).